

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

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Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items in the Possession of The Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, University of New Mexico

AGENCY: National Park Service, Interior

ACTION: Notice

Notice is hereby given under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 of the intent to repatriate a cultural item in the possession of The Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque New Mexico, that meets the definitions of "object of cultural patrimony" and "sacred object" under section 2 of the act.

The object is a mask made of red cotton canvas and hide with a leather beak and eye circles, four fertility balls, one pointed appendage on top, and two faint black lines across the face. The mask is thought to date to between 1900 and 1930. The item was acquired by the Museum from Don Woodard of Woodard Trading Post on March 27, 1965 and was given the accession number 65.29.1.

Authorized representatives of the Hopi Tribe acting on behalf of the Katsina Society Priest and a representative of the Katsina Clan of Walpi Village have identified the mask as a Mudhead (Koyemsi Katsina). They have identified the mask as having ongoing importance central to the Hopi tribe as a whole and which could not have been alienated, appropriated, or conveyed by any individual. They have also stated that the living mask is needed by traditional Hopi religious leaders for the practice of traditional Hopi religion by present day adherents. The Hopi tribe requested repatriation of the living mask (Koyemsi Katsina) in a letter dated March 31, 1995.

Based on the above mentioned information, officials of The Maxwell Museum of Anthropology have determined that, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 (2), there is a relationship of shared group identity which can be reasonably traced between the mudhead mask and the Hopi Tribe. Officials of The Maxwell Museum of Anthropology have also determined that the mudhead mask meets the definition of object of cultural patrimony pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 2.(3)(D). Officials of The Maxwell Museum of Anthropology have also determined that the mudhead mask meets the definition of Sacred Object pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001 2.(3)(C).

The Maxwell Museum's Director and Curatorial committee and the University of New Mexico officials have approved the repatriation of the Mudhead Mask to the Hopi Tribe.

This notice has been sent to officials of the Hopi Tribe. Representatives of any other Indian tribe that believes itself to be culturally affiliated with this object should contact Dr. Garth Bawden, Museum Director or Brenda Dorr, NAGPRA Project Director at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, University

of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87131-1201, telephone: (505) 277-0195, before June 5, 1995. Repatriation of the to the Hopi Tribe can begin after that date if no additional claimants come forward.

Dated: May 2, 1995

C. Timothy McKeown
Acting, Departmental Consulting Archeologist
Acting Chief, Archeological Assistance Division
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